

THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 18TH JULY.

THE question as to whether a University Professor has a right to his own lectures after he has delivered them was recently raised in the House of Lords. The case in dispute was that of Professor Caird's lectures at Glasgow, which one of his audience had sold to the public. The local Courts held that the student, who made such a free use of the notes he had taken, had done no wrong, for that a Professor's lecture once delivered was common property, and the more widely dispersed the better. The Judicial Committee of the House of Lords has decided otherwise. In their Lordships' opinion the copyright of the lectures delivered belongs to the Professor, and not to any of his audience. This will be glad news to the literary world. The judgment will protect literary labour from the clutches of robbers and pirates who, assuming the garb of students, would deprive their teachers of the fruits of their labour. What punishment would Father Manu have prescribed for such an offence? At the time of Manu, the money-making mania had not seized the literary profession, and the Hindu legislator would simply have treated such a question with contempt. According to modern civilized ideas, however, every thing has a money value, and literary labour is no exception to the rule.

THE *Punjab Gazette* publishes, in its issue of the 14th instant, the proceedings of the Senate of the Punjab University held on the 12th of April last. What good there is in publishing these proceedings three months after they had taken place, is best known to the University authorities. We see nothing in the character of the deliberations which require a permanent record. Then why such a waste of the *Gazette* space? By the way, do the University funds pay for the publication? We believe not. The question may here arise could the Government of Bengal follow the example of the Punjab Government, and allow the proceedings of the Calcutta University to be published in the pages of the *Calcutta Gazette* free of cost? There are many worthless things published in the *Gazette*, for which no public interest whatever can ever be felt, and it would be some relief to find that a portion at least of the *Gazette* space is filled by the proceedings of the Senate of our University. Now that there is no prohibition for publicly reporting the proceedings of the Senate, such publication in the *Gazette* would tend to public benefit.

THE following is from the *Times of India*:—"A Mussorie correspondent sends us some interesting facts concerning Yakoob Khan, who is interned there. He lives under the strictest supervision, and is supposed locally to be anxious to return to Cabul. His eldest son is in Persia, and may perhaps be heard of in Afghanistan by and bye. The main point, however, of our correspondent's letter is the assertion that at Mussorie itself it is generally believed that the Viceroy interviewed Yakoob Khan when he visited Dehra Doon, where Yakoob Khan resides in the winter months. The story of the interview has been strenuously contradicted in the Allahabad journal, we know not on what authority; but the story has been repeated over and over again, and is certain to find some acceptance, unless it be officially denied. Of course, Lord Dufferin might have called on Yakoob Khan out of simple curiosity; but the visit, if it is denied and yet believed, will assume an exaggerated importance. Yakoob Khan was, it will be remembered, the cause of General Gordon's sudden departure from India, after he had been only a few days in Bombay. General Gordon believed that he was completely innocent of the massacre of Cavagnari, and on the voyage out had persuaded Lord Ripon to advocate his restoration to the throne of Cabul. The officials who came down from Simla to Bombay to meet Lord Ripon scouted the suggestion. Lord Ripon changed his mind and General Gordon threw up his appointment of Military Secretary in disgust, and shook the dust of India from off his feet."

AMONG the "fancy pieces" from Windsor Castle exhibited in St. George's Hall during the Jubilee

banquets, was a peacock of precious stones valued at £40,000. The body and tail are composed of solid gold, profusely studded with pearls, diamonds, rubies and emeralds. The tiger's head known as Tippoo's footstool, is formed of silver, with eyes of rock crystal, and a tongue of solid gold. These two trophies of Oriental extravagance were taken at Seringapatam, and presented subsequently to George III.

TUESDAY, 19TH JULY.

THE NIZAM, it is already known, made some time ago, an advance of 34 lacs of rupees from the Sur-i-Khas funds to the Dewany treasury. The money was invested in Government Promissory Notes to the extent of twenty six lacs and seventy thousand British Rupees. These promissory notes were deposited with the Hyderabad Branch of the Bank of Bengal, and a loan of thirty lacs was raised upon them by the Minister Salar Jung for state purposes. On His Highness signifying his intention to have the amount he had advanced refunded, the loan of thirty lacs obtained from the Bank was repaid with interest, and the Promissory Notes were reported to have been transferred to His Highness and held in deposit by the Bank in safe custody at its disposal. The Nizam has been told, we hear, that the Promissory Notes in question could not be transferred to His Highness for want of the signature of Sir Salar Jung on the back of these Promissory Notes. The Nizam is in a pretty mess.

LORD REAY is reported to have told, at the Jubilee Banquet at Poona, a delightful anecdote of Lord Beaconsfield. That statesman, when any one was suggested to him as a good man for some appointment, invariably asked, "Does he know anything about the work?" When told "absolutely nothing," he would reply "Then that's the man for the appointment." On the same principle many of our Civil Servants are appointed to work of which they know "absolutely nothing."

IN a Resolution reviewing the report on the Police administration of the Central Provinces in 1886, Mr. Mackenzie, the Chief Commissioner, complains that the hunt for Tantia has by the subordinate police come regularly to be urged as an excuse for neglect of all ordinary duty. But steps are now being taken to remedy this, and Mr. Mackenzie points out that the best protection against Tantia is not so much in eccentric marchings to and fro and special posts as in regular beat patrol and stricter discipline among the force. "Had there been in existence a proper village police," adds the Chief Commissioner, "in all probability this gang would never have made head." The Chief Commissioner is now taking up the question of organising and expanding the village police system. Evidence of the "eccentric marchings," of which Mr. Mackenzie complains, is given in the report for Hoshangabad, where, during the first six months, the police were entirely occupied in operations against Tantia, and the ordinary work was consequently much neglected. At the request of Sir Lepel Griffin, Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, the direction of all special operations for the capture of Tantia was, with the sanction of the Government of India, made over to him last December. But Sir Lepel does not appear to have been more successful than others. The cold and hot seasons have both passed and Tantia is still at large. The Chief Commissioner is in consultation with the local officers as to the steps to be taken for the rainy season.

"At the last moment," says the *World*, "the Queen took a very strong and decided view as to the propriety of placing a limit on the Jubilee honours, decorations, and promotions. The lists sent in by all the departments were, in almost every case, ordered to be reduced by ten names; and as the honours in question had already been offered and accepted, the dilemma in which the Secretaries of State found themselves can be well imagined. The disappointed ones must wait till next year."

Vanity Fair says that Sir Salar Jung's European tour has a political object, as well as being one for pleasure, and that he has gone to Constantinople to study the Eastern Question. It refrains for the present from commenting on the various rumours and

statements that are in circulation in connection with his dismissal from the important post he recently occupied. But they are of very considerable importance, and will probably be made public before long. The part taken by the Viceroy in the matter will, it is understood, be the cause of some inquiry, for it is rightly or wrongly believed that a change in the policy hitherto pursued towards the independent native States of India, is in contemplation. Is Sir Salar Jung placed in the same category by English papers as Maharaja Dhalip Sing?

WEDNESDAY, 20TH JULY.

A LONDON correspondent writes:—"Mr. Parnell's serious illness, now authoritatively pronounced to be cancer in the stomach, will lead, no doubt, to certain modifications in the leadership of the Irish Party, for though the diagnosis of the doctors may happily prove wrong, or recovery may yet set in, the imminent and prolonged absence of the honorable gentleman from the House of Commons may be looked for. While the nominal leadership of the party will probably devolve upon Mr. Justin M'O'Carth, Mr. T. M. Healy, or Mr. John Barry—the real command will rest with either Mr. Dillon, or Mr. Davitt in the background. On that actual leadership much will depend; indeed, more than can be by any possibility foreseen."

"ALTOGETHER, I do not feel very easy about our military position in India," writes Sir George Campbell in his book just issued—"The British Empire." This is written, after the addition of 30,000 men to the strength of the army in India. The area to be occupied and defended by the army having become enormously augmented, Sir George Campbell argues 'that the strain has become serious, and the means of proportionally increasing our military strength have to be taken into consideration. The Mutiny left, as one of its unwelcome legacies, the distrust of a large native army. It has been ever since an accepted axiom that whatever increase is effected in the strength of that army, it must be counterbalanced by an increase in the European contingents so as to keep a proportion between the latter and the former of one to two. So long as this axiom be acted upon, the question which has to be dealt with is, What addition can be made to the European force? Here we are confronted by a difficulty. The despatch of a *corps d'armes* from England reduces the home battalions to skeletons. There is no expectation of the time arriving when any considerable addition can be permanently made to the European force in India. We may expect, therefore, that if the necessity of augmenting the army in India grows manifest and pressing, opinion will undergo a change with regard to the proportion to be observed between European and native troops in India.' Sir George Campbell should have strenuously endeavoured to remove the suspicion of the loyalty of native troops, which is still lurking in certain quarters. The more the Government trusts them, the more they will be attached to the British Throne. The policy of 'suspicion' and 'distrust' is mischievous in the extreme.

ON Sunday (13th June) the Judges went to church at St. Paul's. A sermon was preached to them from the text, "He that ruleth over men must be just:" the preacher, the Ven. Archdeacon Gifford, in the course of his sermon, said that "all human authority, to be firm and stable and worthy to be respected and obeyed, must be based on the eternal principles of justice. Human law and justice must be administered in the fear of God, and they had reason to be thankful that the laws of England, like the Throne of England, had for ages been based on that principle, and that, in spite of defects and inconsistencies, from which no human institution was exempt, our laws had ever been framed in subjection to the Divine order of justice and fairness."

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Weekly Times and Echo* declares that Nana Sahib (who is supposed to have given the order for the massacre of Europeans at Cawnpore in 1857) is now living a few miles beyond a place called Katmandoo, in the Nepal territory, and that he is a recipient of 50 rupees a month from Jung Bahadoor, the Rajah of Nepal. "The Indian Government," continues the correspondent, "are quite aware of all I state, but while he keeps off

British-Indian soil they don't trouble themselves after him. Natives have been sent to the plains of India to personate him at different times, in order to see if the Government would permit his residence in the plains again, but each personator has been arrested, and when it was proved he was not Nana Sahib he was released. I was through the Indian Mutiny, and have lately returned from the country."

THURSDAY, 21ST JULY.

A new departure in the punishment of adultery has just been taken by the tribunal of Douai. A man corrupted his friend's wife, who was the mother of several children. The co-respondent was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, and the husband obtained a divorce. But the latter did not stop here; he brought an action for damages in the name of his children, and the French tribunal sentenced the co-respondent to pay £40 to each child, the money to be placed in the funds till the children came of age. The judgment set forth that the seducer, in betraying the confidence of the husband and turning the wife from her duty, had rendered himself responsible towards the children for the consequences that might follow, and that the children, being by the divorce deprived of a mother's care and affection, were fully entitled to damages.

Two Indian servants, says the *World*, who have been engaged provisionally for a year by the Queen, have arrived in England with Dr. Tyler. One of them, Mohamed Buksh, was formerly in the household of the Queen Mother of Dhuleepore, who sends by him a gold and yak chourn or fly-flapper of great beauty for the Queen's acceptance.

At a special congregation of the University of Cambridge held on June 20, the honorary degree of LL. D. was conferred on the Hon. Sir William Wilson Hunter, K. C. S. I. When he was presented, special reference was made to his "Brief History of the Indian People," his "Dictionary of the non-Aryan Languages of India and High Asia," his "Orissa," his "Annals of Rural Bengal," and his "Life of the Earl of Mayo." The twenty volumes of the "Statistical Account of Bengal" and the thirteen volumes of the "Imperial Gazetteer of India," all of them edited by him, were eulogised as "great works which had been welcomed even by foreign nations as worthy of a great Empire and a great people."

THE troubles of an editor (says the *City Press*) 'may be a little better understood after reading and comparing a few letters which a Continental contemporary publishes as specimens of its daily budget. One writer asks for more details about the laying out of the Hofgarten, and another asks "When are you going to stop this eternal subject of the Hofgarten?" One wants local gossip and less political news; another wants politics, and says nobody cares about local gossip. One says the paper is too soft to wrap anything in; another asks if it could not be made softer, as his wife cleans the windows with it. I have heard of a correspondent who wrote to the editor, saying, "You need not send me any more of your papers, as my housemaid says they won't burn, they are so bad." What is a poor editor to do?'

THE following is the text of President Cleveland's congratulations, presented by Mr. Phelps, the American Minister, to Queen Victoria:—"Great and Good Friend,—In the name and on behalf of the people of the United States, I present their sincere felicitations upon the arrival of the fiftieth anniversary of your Majesty's accession to the crown of Great Britain. I but utter the general voice of my fellow-countrymen in wishing for your people a prolongation of a reign so marked with advance in popular well-being, physical, moral, and intellectual. It is justice and not adulation to acknowledge the debt of gratitude and respect due to your personal virtues for their important influence in producing and causing the prosperous and well-ordered condition of affairs now generally prevailing throughout your dominions. May your life be prolonged, and peace, honour and prosperity bless the people over whom you have been called to rule. May liberty flourish throughout your Empire, under just and equal laws, and your Government be strong in the affections of all who live under it, and I pray God to have your Majesty in his holy keeping.—GROVER CLEVELAND."

WE did not take any notice of the following which appeared not long ago in a Punjab paper, as the matter, we thought, did not require an immediate enquiry. Probably it is a hoax, but hoax or not, there will be no harm in keeping a sharp eye upon the suspected parties. The *Civil and Military Gazette*, writing of certain secret political societies in the Punjab, devotes an article to the history of the *Rukas*. The writer claims to write 'from personal

knowledge and not from mere hearsay.' They number about a hundred and twenty thousand fanatics. They have secret meetings' passes, signs, and passwords. The grand omnific word, whispered into the ear of the initiated is known to the Royal Arch Freemason. This word is an ancient Sanskrit word. Their secret emissaries are now active in Central Asia, in Afghanistan, and in the Punjab itself, both among the civil and military population, working cautiously and carefully, we doubt not, but still no longer passive and dormant, and so they need most careful and judicious watching.'

FRIDAY, 22ND JULY.

ENGLISHMEN are the only people, says a contemporary, 'to be found in Europe, as a rule, willing to depreciate the strength of Great Britain in war. Sir C. Dilke's pessimism in the *Fortnightly*, and Lord Randolph Churchill's excited denunciations of our complete unpreparedness for war, find no echo on the Continent. In the Belgian Chamber, for instance, a question was raised as to the probability of English assistance, if either Germany or France, or both, threatened Belgian independence. One orator quoted Sir C. Dilke to the effect that England had forgotten to care for Belgium, amid loud protest from the Chamber, and M. Frere Orban cried: "England is great enough to know what she has to do." The member replied with a quotation from Lord Randolph Churchill that England's military power had fallen into decay, whereupon the Prince de Chimay, Foreign Secretary, exclaimed: "England has always done what she had to do whenever she wished."

It appears from a memoir sent by Dr. James to the *Academie des Sciences* that, unlike other animals monkeys readily acquire the habit of taking morphia. When monkeys live with opium-smokers, and become accustomed to a medicated atmosphere, they acquire a taste for the poison. One monkey, for instance, would wait until its master had laid aside his pipe, and would then take it up and smoke what remained. If not allowed to do so for several days, it would fall into a state of depression and stupor, which disappeared as soon as the stimulant was supplied. In India the fondness of parrots (*tiya*) for opium is well-known, and at one time *tiyas* were trained by gay Lotharios to fly to the frontal black spot (*tika*), the counterpart of court-plaster on the cheek of English ladies of the last century, under the impression of its being a patch of opium.

HERMANN, the celebrated Austrian Professor of leger-de-main, has just died at Carlstad. He performed before all the crowned heads of Europe. The best trick he ever made was before the Sultan Abdul-Mejid. It was in the palace, on the border of the Bosphorus. He asked the Sultan to lend him his watch, a splendid piece of jewellery, giving the day of the week, the date, the month, the second, the phases of the moon, &c. The Sultan gave his watch with reluctance, but what was his horror when he saw Professor Hermann throwing it deliberately in the Bosphorus! The Sultan had become pale when Professor Hermann told him; "Do not be afraid." He asked for a fishing rod which was brought. He threw the bait in the Bosphorus and waited, after a quarter of an hour of anxious feeling on the part of the Sultan, Professor Hermann exclaimed, "I think I have caught a fish!" and at the same time pulling the rod, he throws a fish at the feet of the Sultan. He asked one of the aides-de-camp to open the fish and to the great astonishment of all, the Sultan's watch was found intact and still showing the time; and while every one was applauding, the Sultan opened the watch to see the number and satisfy himself that it was his own. That trick cost him a lot of money, for the watch that was found in the fish and which had been placed by smart divers at the end of the fishing-rod was the Sultan's own and the one thrown in the Bosphorus was a perfect imitation of the real one.

THE Moscow correspondent of the *Times* telegraphed on June 10:—"The Maharaja Dhuleep Singh is still at his hotel in Moscow, but without his aide-de-camp, Aronah Singh, who has gone to England. In the latter's stead, though I do not mean to insinuate in the latter's capacity, his Indian Highness is now solaced in his hours of brooding discontent by a Turkish gentleman, who has recently arrived from Constantinople for the express purpose, it would seem, of conferring with the Prince. There is as yet no particular reason for attaching any importance to this new arrival among the Maharaja's Moscow friends, except the very natural one of the suspicious curiosity attaching through his own fault alone to every little circumstance of his Highness's life in Russia. Such is this curiosity, that we may not improbably hear before long of a Russian-Indo-Irish one under the ægis of M. Kathoff. It has become known on authority which I have

no reason to doubt that his Highness is to-morrow to be formally received in audience by the Governor-General of Moscow, Prince Dolgorouky. For some time certain members of society in St. Petersburg and Moscow have been debating the question as to whether the Maharaja has committed any crime against England which would make his open reception among them a dangerous and unadvisable proceeding. If the report of the alleged appointment with Prince Dolgorouky turn out to be true, we must conclude that Russian society has at last solved the question in the Maharaja's favor, and that with the exception of frequent explosions of wrath against England, when he is mistaken for an Englishman, his Highness is held to have done nothing which could properly exclude him from the highest Muscovite circles.' According to Bazar rumours, in the Punjab, the Maharaja has been promised 5 lakhs a year, as a pension, by the Russian Government. There is no end of such worthless stories about the poor Maharaja.

SATURDAY, 23RD JULY.

A GREAT banquet, attended by the leaders of modern science and many other eminent persons, was recently given to Professor Tyndall. 'He is about to retire from his active employments, and it was felt that his conspicuous services to science deserve some complimentary acknowledgement. The Professor has laboured hard for five-and-thirty years, filling during that period with marked ability the chair of natural philosophy at the Royal Institute, and labouring strenuously to advance science, and diffuse a love of scientific knowledge amongst the community. His lectures on light and heat have popularised those important subjects, and it may be said that many thousands have been won to science through the charm of his luminous and facile style, who would otherwise have remained in utter darkness. Professor Tyndall has been an industrious investigator, "a true son of science," as he put it in his own speech, "who pursued his inquiries irrespective of practical considerations." No one has contributed more than he towards that scientific education which has so ably assisted the national advancement in recent years.'

THE Queen's Title of Empress.—'Mr. Howell asked the First Lord of the Treasury whether his attention had been called to the preamble of the "Declaration between the British and Belgian Governments for amending Article I of the Extradition Treaty of May 20, 1876, signed at London, April 21, 1887;" and to the preamble to the "Convention for the exchange of Post Office money-orders between the Island of Malta and France, signed at Paris, September 16, 1885, and ratified at Paris on January 10, 1887," both of which papers had only been recently issued to members of that House, in both of which Her Majesty was described as Empress of India, and whether such use of Her Majesty's Indian title in European conventions and declarations was in accordance with the public pledges given in that House, when the title was conferred, that such title should only be used in documents having reference to India, and not in those having reference solely to the United Kingdom.' Mr. W. H. Smith: 'The Queen's proclamation of April 28, 1876, sets out the terms on which the Imperial title was to be used, and excludes the use of the title from documents whose operation only extended to the United Kingdom. As, however, both of the documents referred to by the hon. member do extend in their operation beyond the United Kingdom, the use of the title appears to be correct.'

IN English toady is a term of reproach, and the idea of dining on frogs or toads is shocking enough. Frenchmen, however, have never evinced any such antipathy to the frogs, and in the United States they have of late taken to breeding the nasty-looking batrachians as an article of delicacy. One Colonel Phocion Howard, the owner of such a breeding establishment, called the Baratrea Frog Farm, in the Vermilion Country, has made a great advance in this respect, and thus advertises the products of his farm. 'To meet all possible objections, therefore, importers and dealers have determined to bedeck, garnish, and trim frogs' legs in such a manner as to appeal for patronage to the higher and nobler instincts of humanity.' The following price-list will be read with interest:—Frogs' saddles for gentlemen, per dozen 60 cents, frogs' side saddles for ladies, per dozen 60 cents; frogs' legs in parsley knickerbockers, per dozen. 75 cents; frogs' legs *en train*, Elizabethan ruff of cresses, per dozen, 80 cents. "These are the four principal new styles," continues Colonel Howard, "each of them has several variations, so that every taste can be accommodated, while no nature (however, pensive) will be shocked thereby." There is a class of our countrymen whom it is usual to designate as toadies. Will they patronise Colonel Howard's establishment?

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, BOW-BAZAR STREET.)

(SESSION 1887-8.)

LECTURE by Babu Ashutosh Mukerjee, M. A., R. A. S., F. R. S. E., on Monday, the 25th Inst., at 3½ P. M.

Subject: Analytical Geometry; the Circle.

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Tuesday, the 19th Inst., at 7½ P. M.

Subjects: Laws of Magnetic Action, and Distribution of Magnetism in Magnets.

PRACTICAL CLASS in Chemistry under Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on Thursday, the 18th Inst., at 4½ P. M.

Senior Class, Subject: Milk Analysis (continued)

LECTURE by the Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., O. I. E., on Thursday, the 28th Inst., at 7½ P. M.

Subject: On Forces and Levers.

LECTURE by Dr. Rajanikanta Sen, on Friday, the 29th Inst., at 5½ P. M.

Subject: Laws of Chemical Action and Classification of Metals.

PRACTICAL CLASS in Physics under Babu Jagadish Chunder Bose, B. Sc., on Saturday, the 30th Inst., at 3 P. M.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M. D.,
Honorary Secretary

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, JULY 25, 1887.

MOTIVE IN NEWSPAPER POLEMICS.

CERTAIN sections of the Anglo-Indian Press complain bitterly of the frequency with which the vernacular papers of Bengal indulge in the ungracious work of attributing secret motives to Europeans. They find it quite as offensive as the tendency to unfavorable comparisons about which we wrote in our last issue; and no wonder they resent it violently. It is unpleasant enough to have one's actions criticised, but that is nothing compared to the offence given and injury done by reference to secret and improper motives. Every man knows best what is in his heart, and he cannot but feel deeply aggrieved when outsiders try to expose it in what he thinks hideous colours. It is the privilege of every gentleman to demand that he should be judged by his professions, and in the ordinary affairs of private life we are bound to concede that demand. To deny it would be tantamount to denying the character of gentlemanliness. When a gentleman says what he means, those who hear him should at once accept his statement in perfect and implicit trust. To question it is to question his veracity, honesty, and good faith. Indeed, the affairs of every-day life could not get on if people were to demand a proof for every statement made. Matters, however, assume quite a different character when we step beyond the arena of ordinary private life to that of a court of law. In the criminal court the criminality of almost every offence rests in motive. The man who removes a book from our table and places it behind the door of our room with the intention of afterwards taking it away for his own use is guilty of theft; but the guilt is due to the intention, though not accomplished, and not to the actual removal. Whenever it can be shown that no such intention existed the man must be declared innocent. This shows the paramount importance of inquiring, in criminal cases, into the secrets of men's hearts. The motive must be known, or the trial cannot be satisfactory. Under such circumstances the idea of impropriety in prying into other men's secrets never crosses our mind for a moment, and it should never do. To admit the impropriety in such cases is to abdicate the function of the judge—to close fast the door of justice. The task is doubtless a very unpleasant one—at times, positively repulsive—but to shirk it is to give up the most important duty of a judicial officer. A man may occupy a high position in society, and have the highest reputation for every thing that is good; but when he is brought before a court charged with some offence, it is the duty of the presiding judge to enquire into the motive of the accused, and not to rest

content, with his social position and good reputation. There would be a positive failure of justice if the enquiry was avoided on the strength of the reputation. Good character and high social position may, and do, give rise to many presumptions in his favor, but they do not obviate the necessity of strict enquiry. Nor is the enquiry rendered redundant in the case of a notorious bad character. Injury may be done as much by hasty presumption on the one side as on the other. All these are doubtless trite axioms not worth repeating; but they have an important bearing on the question we have in hand. The duty of a journalist is that of a judge; it is the duty of judging public men from their public acts. In the discharge of such duty every journalist is bound to enquire into the motives of official actions. Even as a judge in a court of law makes every allowance for the presumption suggested by good character, so should the journalist in every case; he would fail in his duty, he would be unfit for his honorable post, if he did not. But he cannot take things for granted. He cannot give up all enquiry on the strength of an officer's position or reputation. He would be abdicating his position as a judge if he did so. Nay, if the principle be once admitted that no enquiry should be permitted in regard to the motive of public officers, the great function of the press as a check on public officers would at once be lost, and the press may as well cease to exist. Human nature is not only fallible but also weak, and the great duty of the press is to watch and carefully discriminate between what results from mere fallibility or incapacity to differentiate between right and wrong and what proceeds from moral weakness, or interested motives. The task is an onerous, a most difficult, one to accomplish; but for all that it has to be undertaken, and nothing should be done to check the due performance of this all-important duty. We are fully conscious of the extreme difficulty of the task. The publicist is human like the judged; he is as subject to the fallibility and weakness of human nature as those on whom he sits as a judge; he is liable to be influenced by private or sinister motives, to yield to party considerations; but for all that he must either undertake the task of judging, or abdicate his office. To drop all enquiry about motives on his part would be as prejudicial to justice as would a similar resolve on the part of a judicial officer sitting on the bench at a criminal trial. Under these considerations we feel firmly convinced that it is essential to the satisfactory and complete discharge of journalistic duty that enquiry into motives should be most carefully made, and that those who insist upon its total omission are greatly mistaken. In making the enquiry, of course, the publicist must follow the same rules which regulate the proceedings of our law courts in such matters, and should most faithfully and religiously avoid drawing any inference that the facts before him do not fully justify; but honest and legitimate inferences he is bound in duty to draw. In making this remark we desire to point out, to prevent misconception, that while we hold enquiry into motives as right and proper, we set our face against it when the case under discussion involves no urgent necessity for such enquiry in order to bring truth to light. It is the most difficult and most arduous task to dive into other men's minds, and the slightest mistake in making the attempt is calculated to entail serious mischief. In India where the higher officers are of one race and the subjects of another, the danger in this respect is excessive. We would most earnestly urge our vernacular contemporaries, therefore, to be constantly on their guard. In enquiring into the motives of others, they frequently run the risk of their own motives being misrepresented, so as materially to neutralize the effect of their exertion to do public good. In England, France, and the United States almost all newspapers are party papers, and it is all but impossible to open any paper without meeting with flagrant attempts at misrepresentation by indulgence in attributing motives; but the partisan character of the papers being well-known, and the community in which they circulate being much more homogenous than in India the amount of harm done is never very great. The case is otherwise with us. In most instances we have to deal with our foreign rulers, and those who are

inimical to us are never slow in raising the cry of malice, envy, scurrility, disloyalty and sedition. It behoves us, therefore, to avoid attribution of secret motives to Indian officials as much as possible. Our arguments may be thereby weakened, and our exertions to do good to our people crushingly handicapped; but in view of our political situation we cannot help that. Where a Mr. Hynes, having got two or three of his sons and nephews put into his office, descends in public on the heinousness of what he calls "native tendency to nepotism" it is not in human nature to forego the *tu quoque*. In matters of more serious import it is absolutely necessary to enquire into motives; and we hold our vernacular contemporaries perfectly absolved from blame when they resort to it; nay we insist that in the honest, fearless, faithful performance of their duty they should not hesitate for a moment to do the needful. If evil should overtake them for doing so, it is as inevitable as the risk of loss of life in warfare. They should be fully prepared for it. At the same time, as a general rule, they should, we repeat, cultivate the virtues of moderation and caution. They will thereby do more good to their country than by a too free and lavish indulgence in what, like the boomerang, is apt to recoil in a manner the most harmful.

THE MEHERPUR CASE.

HIS Honor the Lieutenant-Governor's decision on the Meherpur fishing case has now been published.

The charges, as our readers are aware, which were laid against Mr. Lusson, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, who tried the case, were that he convicted some fifty persons of theft, who were not guilty of the offence; that he sentenced a large number of the accused to whipping, which they did not merit; and that he, in passing his sentence, acted against the orders of the High Court, and was guilty of contempt of Court.

As regards the first charge, it seems to the Lieutenant-Governor quite apparent that Mr. Lusson never from the beginning entertained any doubt that the removal of fish from the *beel* against the will of the farmer amounted to theft. To understand the point it will be necessary to refer to the proceedings of the High Court, last year, in a similar case which came up before Justice Mitter and Justice Grant sitting together. In this case also the complaint was that the accused fished in the Meherpur *beel* against the will of the lessee, and the same Magistrate, Mr. Lusson, convicted the accused of theft, and of being members of an unlawful assembly, and sentenced them to whipping, imprisonment and fine. The judgment was reversed, on the ground that as the accused fished each for himself, they had not a common object, and that as there was no proof that any of the accused removed any fish, the offence of theft was not established. 'Mr. Lusson may well have assumed from the decision,' says His Honor, 'that had there been such evidence (with regard to the removal of any fish from the *beel*) the conviction for theft would have been upheld.' 'There was nothing,' His Honor continues, 'in the proceedings of 1886 to cause Mr. Lusson to alter his opinion on this point, and having regard to the undoubted fact that catching fish in such *beel* against the will of the owner or lessee had heretofore been regarded and treated by the courts as theft, Mr. Lusson may be excused for taking what is now laid down to be an erroneous view of the law, and dealing with the present case as one of theft.' We have not been quite able to follow His Honor in his argument. In the case of 1886, the High Court decided that the offence was not theft, because there was 'no removal of the fish.' In other words, as no dishonest intention was proved, the accused could not be convicted of theft. The inference is that in the opinion of the judges removal of the fish would have evidenced dishonest intention, and the accused then could be held guilty of the crime of theft. In the present case, was it in evidence that the accused removed the fish from the *beel*? Was it not shown that when the Sub-Inspector of Police and his constables prohibited the accused from fishing, they said, with one voice, that, in accordance with a well-established usage, they came to the lake, on the annual holiday, to fish

in order to have a little amusement, and they were only doing that which they had a right to do? Did they not request the Sub-Inspector to wait till they had finished their customary holiday-making, and assure him that they would most gladly go to the Magistrate after they had plunged in the water and caught some fish? Did not they, as soon as some fish were caught, surrender themselves to the Police, and in a most orderly way accompany them to the court house? If this statement of the facts is correct, and we have been assured that it is correct to the letter, where was evidence to show that the fish were removed with a dishonest intention? It is not denied that the people who came to fish were asserting a customary right; they had not the slightest intention of robbing another of his property, but were only enjoying a holiday, and doing what was sanctioned by usage. It is not proved that they removed the fish, which, in the opinion of the High Court Judges would have constituted theft. We cannot understand, therefore, how Mr. Luson could have any doubt whatever as to the law in the present case. It is a question of *bona fides*, and the facts disclosed in the case clearly show that the Magistrate acted in a most unwarrantable manner from beginning to end. Mr. Smith, the Commissioner of the Presidency Division, tells us that Mr. Luson, when passing sentence, had not the judgment of the High Court before him, and that he had forgotten to some extent the grounds upon which his judgment was reversed. Mr. Luson did not think it proper, before passing sentence, to procure a copy of the High Court judgment, and did not even remember the grounds upon which the judgment of acquittal was based. This proves one of two things; either Mr. Luson thought that the High Court judgment should not in any way govern his action in the case, or that he believed that the High Court statement of the law was erroneous, and that he should, therefore, act according to his own ideas of justice and equity. These are horns of a dilemma from which Mr. Luson's warmest advocates would not be able to extricate him. We are speaking of 'good faith,' and would not make the slightest hint about the vindictive spirit with which, it is said, he was actuated. Tried by the test of good faith alone, Mr. Luson has been found to have acted against the law laid down by the highest Court of the realm, and thus to have justly deserved the severe censure which public opinion has pronounced against him.

The *Englishman* has attempted to prove that the law laid down by the Chief Justice is bad law, and that the cases upon which he relied for support were not in point. The contention is that the cases referred to applied to fishing in 'a navigable river and a creek,' where the fish are beyond the control of the lessee. The gist of the argument lies in the following passage, which we extract from the *Englishman* of Tuesday last. 'This *beel* in Meherpur is not in the nature of a river, with hundreds of different riparian owners, in which the fish can at pleasure leave one owner's domain and enter another's. On the other hand, we have an enclosed piece of water (whether it be called pond, lake, *beel* or *jheel*) entirely surrounded by land which is the property of one person. The water and the fish belong to this person, and he lets the fishery to another person for the very substantial rent of Rs. 500. This lessee was able to catch the fish, whenever he chose to do so, and he was, therefore, in possession, and the persons who were punished by Mr. Luson undoubtedly took the fish out of his possession.' The meaning is that the *beel* is an enclosed reservoir of water, and the fish are in constructive possession of the lessee, who can make use of his property in any way he may think fit. The Chief Justice said that 'the offence of theft could not have been committed, because the fish said to have been stolen were not the subject of any one's property. Against this view the *Englishman* urges that the *beel* was, properly speaking, in the nature of a pond, and if the fruits of 'a few paltry mango or plantain trees' could be the subject of property, why should not 'fish worth thousands of rupees' be subject of property? The Chief Justice pointed out that the *beel* was a natural reservoir of water, not excavated by human agency, and the fish were not

stored in it by any individual—they were *feræ naturæ*, and as such could not be owned by any body. The position taken up by the Chief Justice has been fully borne out by the statements made by a correspondent of the *Englishman*. Babu Aukhoy Kumar Mukerji, Vice-Chairman of the Krishnagar Municipality, the correspondent mentioned above, says:

'As your comments upon the judgment of the High Court in the Meherpur fishing case are based on the assumption that the *beel* or lake in question is situated in the land of one proprietor, who is supposed to be the owner of the entire soil and the banks, I think it right to state, for your information and that of the public, that I know the *beel* in question very well, as it is not far from my own house. It is about 8 miles in length, and extends over lands belonging to numerous zemindars and occupancy ryots claiming under different rights. During the rains it is every year connected at both ends with the river Bhairab, the *jalkar* rights to which belong to Mr. Macnaghten of Nischindipur, while the *jalkur* right to the *beel* is owned by Babu Nafar Chunder Pal Chowdhury, who claims only a portion of the subsoil as proprietor. Only last year I made a short cut through the *beel*, my boat, like other boats, entering the *beel* at one end from the river Bhairab and passing out at the other.'

The facts mentioned by Babu Aukhoykumar make the present case exactly parallel to those which have been cited in support of the judgment delivered by the Chief Justice.

As regards the second charge against Mr. Luson, His Honor says:—

'It remains then, to deal with Mr. Luson's action in rejecting the plea of custom and in sentencing the accused to whipping and imprisonment, and on these points Sir Stuart Bayley is compelled to observe that Mr. Luson showed a want of appreciation of the proper way of dealing with such a case, and that the punishment was unreasonably severe. The case was not an ordinary one, as the accused asserted a custom of fishing in this *beel* on the first day of Baisakh in each year. It seems, therefore, to the Lieutenant-Governor that Mr. Luson should have considered how far this plea of custom availed the accused, and even if he did not consider himself justified in referring the lessee on this account to the Civil Court, and was constrained to decide that an offence had been committed, he should certainly have had regard to the admitted custom in awarding punishment, and from this point of view, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, a small fine would have sufficiently marked the illegality of the act. Neither imprisonment nor whipping was called for, and the latter punishment was in a case of this kind quite unjustifiable.'

The view taken by His Honor, with regard to the second charge, is perfectly correct, and even the warmest supporter of Mr. Luson would not attempt to justify the action taken by him in the case. The wrong which has been inflicted by him upon 50 innocent people has been so grievous, that no compensation whatever that the law could give would be of the slightest consequence to the sufferers. He has injured them in the most vital parts. He has destroyed their honor, and blighted their happiness for life. The stigma of being whipped, and that for no offence, will never be effaced; it will follow the accused to death, and affect even their children and children's children. The disgrace has been indelible, and no punishment which Sir Stuart Bayley can inflict upon the wrong-doer would afford the least relief to the sufferers. The punishment which the Lieutenant-Governor has determined to mete out is that Mr. Luson should be removed from the sub-division of Meherpur, to a sadder station. His Honor further directs that Mr. Luson be deprived of his summary powers and of his powers under the Whipping Act for a period of six months.

REPORT OF THE SALARIES COMMISSION.

THE Salaries Commission was ushered in with the usual flourish of trumpets, and, as was to be expected, it roused the hopes of the Ministerial Officers, who looked forward to an early improvement of their position and prospects. But alas! these hopes and expectations have been dashed to the ground.

Tint after tint, they died away
Till all at last were gone.

In fact, Commissions have now become administrative safety-valves. Whenever there is a prolonged outcry in any quarter, a Commission is appointed. It keeps the public in agreeable agitation during the season of enquiry. Then comes a period of suspense during which the report is prepared. This is followed by a further period of suspense during which the report is reviewed by Government. Last of all there are the references to be made to departmental heads, and by the time returns are received and digested something more stirring occupies the public mind, and the Commission and its work are cast into the limbo of oblivion. In the present case there was no disturbance visible on the surface of clerkdom. The Commission owed its birth to an unusual fit of generosity on the part of the late Lieutenant-Governor, though from the upshot on may be tempted to doubt that it was not a bit of diplomacy to cover the close of his administrative career. The time was very unfavorable for such a Commission. Retrenchment was, as it still unfortunately is, the order of the day; and the Salaries Commission looked ominous by the side of the Finance Committee. We feared that if the Commission were at all to find their way to recommendations for the improvement of the pay of Ministerial Officers, their recommendation would most likely be shelved. Then the Commission was not rightly constituted. The President was known to be a gentleman who had little sympathy, indeed positive antipathy, for the class who formed the bulk of the ministerial servants, while he was too self-sufficient, too bump-tious, too short-tempered to work in harmony with the other members. Before many months had elapsed he fell out with the Junior member, Babu Durgapati Banerji, whose profound knowledge, vast experience, and thorough honesty of purpose had recommended him to the honorable post. The chasm thus produced widened apace, and all chance of unanimity was lost. It was expected that the English members would utilize the knowledge and experience of the Junior Member, but they would not; they stood in an attitude of opposition to him; and the Junior Member, who had made the questions that came up before the Commission the subjects of life-long study, could not in justice to his own convictions, and in fairness to those whose interests he was called upon to represent, surrender his judgment to the crass ignorance of his colleagues. The result was a divided house, and it fell. The Report was written partly by the Junior Member, and partly by the Chairman Mr. Beames and the Senior Member Mr. Grimley; but the recommendations in the body of the Report proceeded mostly from the two last, the former being driven to the unpleasant necessity of recording a long dissenting minute. This minute is thoroughly practical and always to the point; it is characterised by an amount of steady common sense, unflinching close reasoning, and statesmanly width of view which we look for in vain in the text of the report. But it has served no good purpose. We regret to find it has served only to evoke a lot of carping hypercriticism from the two English members of the Commission. No fault, or error, or mistake worthy of the slightest notice has been found, but the fact of a native dissenting has excited the wrath of the majority, and they have vented their wrath by a flood of vituperations. Mr. Grimley has also recorded a dissenting minute.

The Commission was appointed in March 1885 to hold a comprehensive enquiry with the two-fold object, 1st, to reduce 'clerical labor by some method of decentralisation' under which the responsibility of local officers could be enlarged, while efficient control could be assured by substituting frequent and searching inspections for the multitude of petty reports, returns and applications; 2nd, to revise the rates of pay drawn by ministerial officers in these Provinces.

The Committee commenced its labors in April 1885, and worked till August 4, 1886, when its report was submitted.

A large part of the time of the Commission was devoted to the inspection of district offices, but we miss the notes of inspection on which the proposals made in reference to the first object are mainly based, and which would have formed a valuable and interesting addition to the appendix of the Report. The object of burking them cannot be very creditable.

The recommendations made by the Commission come up to a total of 38. Out of these the Government has summarily rejected 16, deferred for further consideration 17, and adopted only 5. This is indeed a sorry outcome of the labours of a Commission which has entailed an expense of well nigh a lakh and a quarter of rupees to Government. But under the peculiar circumstances of the case it could not be otherwise.

The main suggestions made by the Commission are :

- I. The substitution of a system of control by means of inspection for that exercised by means of returns ;
- II. The reduction and simplification of periodical returns and reports ;
- III. Simplification of correspondence ;
- IV. The passing of a delegating Act to enable Government to delegate its powers to Divisional and District officers.

The 1st suggestion has been very properly rejected by the Lieutenant-Governor for reasons recorded in para 7 of the resolution which runs thus :

Sir Rivers Thompson fully recognises the fact that inspection may bring to light many mistakes which could never appear in any figured statement, and it is for this reason that he has often called the attention of Commissioners and District Officers to this important part of their duties. But it does not, therefore, follow that even the most careful and conscientious inspections would efficiently take the place and serve the purpose of periodical returns. In fact, without a figured statement of general results to go upon, it is in many cases difficult, if not impossible, to make an efficient inspection of the work of any large department. It is no doubt right that an inspecting officer should examine the papers of individual cases—indeed his inspection must, to a great extent, consist of such an examination—but if this were done at random there would be an enormous waste of time, and the discovery of anything which was going wrong would be more or less a matter of chance. If, on the other hand, he begins his inspection by examining a figured statement of the results of the past month or quarter or year, his attention is thereby directed to the points where he may expect to discover mistakes, and where instruction or advice will probably be needed. It is only in departments dealing with a comparatively small number of separate cases that he could, as a general rule, derive much assistance from the registers in ascertaining the points at which the work was failing to secure satisfactory results and therefore called for special scrutiny. Statements, then, must in many cases be prepared, if only because without them effective inspection is impossible, and the question whether they shall be submitted to the controlling office is therefore comparatively unimportant. On full consideration of all that the Commission have urged, Sir Rivers Thompson finds it impossible to accept in broad general terms their proposal that inspection should take the place of returns as means of control.

These observations are quite right and proper. To our mind, however, the strongest argument against the proposition is that in a country where the tenure of official life in any one post does not at an average extend to 6 months, the fruits of inspections would be lost on every transfer of an officer from one place to another and there would be nothing left on record for the guidance of his successor. It is difficult to conceive a more unbusiness-like recommendation.

The consideration of the 2nd and 3rd suggestions has been deferred. They have been very properly referred to the Board of Revenue and local officers for further report along with several other proposals made by the Commission. It is amusing to observe that this has been done in spite of the wishes of the Commission as expressed in para. 261 of their report.

The last recommendation, viz. the passing of a 'delegating Act' is a measure, which on the face of it bears the stamp of a scheme of decentralization which none but those who long to lord it over the people without the smallest let or hindrance could have conceived. We are right glad therefore that Babu Durgagati Banerji stoutly opposed it. We regret we have no space to spare for the reproduction of the whole of his very judicious and statesmanly remarks; but we cannot resist the temptation of quoting the following para :

'Even supposing that the policy of centralisation of authority in Government has been pursued too far since the year 1870, as pointed out by my colleagues, it must be presumed that this has been done on mature consideration. Indeed, on a priori grounds it would seem that a central authority must be peculiarly fitted to exercise these functions with which the Legislature has vested it. It sees things from a comprehensive imperial standpoint, with the eyes of statesmen and not local officers, whose vision is circumscribed by the boundary of their divisions or districts. From its position it is far better able to determine the requirements of the different districts under its control than those who have no such authority. It is best able from its knowledge of other districts to form a correct conclusion as to whether a particular measure should be adopted or sanctioned for any particular part of the province, and it alone can secure perfect uniformity and regularity of procedure.'

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor concurs in this. He points out :

'A Bill couched in the general terms suggested would not commend itself either to the Government of India and the Secretary of State or to the Legislature ; Sir Rivers Thompson himself would have found it easier to form an opinion on the necessity for action, more or less in the direction proposed, if specific instances had been adduced in which the law unnecessarily hampers the action of District Officers.'

Another administrative reform suggested by the Commission is the abolition of the system of parallel promotion in the Covenanted Service ; but it has not met with approval. The Lieutenant-Governor has rejected it as undesirable and injurious. It would be a reversion to the old principle of an inspector of rum distilleries or police chowkies one day and a judge of the highest Judicial Court in the country the next day. We wonder how such an idea got into the head of Mr. Beames at the far end of the nineteenth century.

The enquiry relating to the revision of salaries embraced the following heads :

- I. Increase in the cost of living.
- II. Classification of Districts in order of importance.
- III. Remodelling of establishments.
- IV. Scales of salaries.

The 1st head involved an elaborate enquiry to ascertain the economic and social changes which have taken place since the year 1867, when the salaries of ministerial officers were last revised.

The report on this subject is interesting. It appears that it was originally drafted by the Junior Member, but was amplified by the President by, to quote the words of Babu Durgagati Banerji, 'numerous quotations from replies received by the Commission to their circulars, containing figures showing expenditure ordinarily incurred on account of dress, marriage, jewellery &c. By way of illustration, a few instances are quoted.' To these quotations Babu Durgagati Banerji objected, remarking, 'I demur to the marshalling of figures which are *prima-facie* not correct, and can serve no good purpose in arriving at a correct conclusion.'

The general conclusion arrived at by the Commission on this question is that the cost of living has risen in the aggregate to 75 per cent. as compared with 1867, and in discussing the question as to what should be the rates and amount of increase in the salaries of ministerial officers, the Commission writes with considerable sympathy.

The decision of the Lieutenant-Governor on this question is, however, very disappointing. His Honor observes :

Sir Rivers Thompson entertains the belief that in the classes from which amla are taken, as in most other classes of the community, the standard of comfort has, in recent years, risen, and will continue to rise in the future ; but the question whether this is so or not is not, in his judgment, one which it is necessary for Government in the present connection to consider. From the innumerable applications which come before the Government for employment in the public service in all its grades and departments, there can be little doubt that the supply of well-qualified and educated men far exceeds the appointments which are at the disposal of Government. So long as the salaries offered suffice to secure the services of competent men, and do not fall conspicuously below the emoluments which similarly qualified persons can secure else-

where, presumption must, he thinks, be that the present scale of pay is sufficiently high. It is not of course necessary that the salaries of Government servants should be equal in amount to the incomes which may be secured by successful private enterprise, because the certainty of the former and the prospect offered of a pension on retirement materially affect the question.

Sir Rivers Thompson concludes by remarking that while on the whole he "does not doubt that the cost of living has risen, he cannot accept the Commission's estimate of the extent to which this has been the case." These views are diametrically opposite to those expressed in the Lieutenant-Governor's Resolution appointing the Committee in which it was observed that "the rise in prices and in the cost of living, which was anticipated by Mr. Strachey in 1865 has continued at constantly accelerating speed, and for sometime past signs have been apparent that the effect of the reforms introduced in 1868 have been exhausted, and that a further advance must be made if the ministerial service is to be maintained in a condition of efficiency."

We cannot well account for the change which came over the Lieutenant-Governor's dreams. He started with a general admission that the cost of living had gone on rising "at constantly accelerating speed" since 1865, and the Commission have proved by facts and figures that he was quite correct in his supposition, and that the extent of the increase is 75 per cent. If the elaborate calculations of the Commission under this head were thus to be summarily rejected, or the information available in the Bengal Office was to be substituted for the unanimous testimony of so many men in the different ranks of society whom the Commission consulted on this subject, there was no necessity for the expenditure of so much time and money over the matter. It is obvious Sir Rivers Thompson found himself landed in an awkward position by his Commission, but he lacked the courage to admit it, so he has tried to back out of it in the way he has done. He should have accepted the percentage of rise ascertained by the Commission, and reserved to himself the regulation of the scale of pay according to the means at his disposal. The theory about the multiplicity of candidates is unworthy of an officer of his position. Would he for a moment doubt that it would be easy to obtain a hundred candidates for the office he held for one-tenth of the pay that he drew ? He would certainly not hold that he was over paid, though there are men who do so. This remark may be *mutatis mutandis* applied to the whole range of the Civil Service. Any way the prospect of relief for the Amla for whose relief the Commission was appointed has now vanished altogether, and the money spent on the enquiry is all but totally lost. This is, however, only a part of what has been the characteristic of the entire administration of the late Lieutenant-Governor.

MR. BEAMES' CASE.

GOVERNMENT orders in this painful case have at last been published, and are, as far as they go, satisfactory. We put in the qualifying terms, as we find the Government letter on the subject is, by itself, insufficient to give a full and complete idea of the case. In justice to Sir Stuart Bayley, who apparently pleads very strongly in favor of Mr. Beames, his reports on the case along with Mr. Beames' explanations should not have been withheld from the public. Depending on the Home Secretary's letter to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal we feel that we are groping in the dark, or that the India Government had not before it, when it was written, all the materials necessary for a correct understanding of the case. The letter opens by reference to the loans contracted by Mr. Beames when Collector of Cuttack. In both these instances, it is said, Mr. Beames borrowed money from persons not resident within the limits of his official jurisdiction. The debts have since been liquidated, and Sir Stuart Bayley expressed the opinion that the loans were contracted in an open way, and as an ordinary matter of business, and that they called for no further notice from Government. This is not a fair representation of the case. Although the late Raja Digamber

Mitra, was not a resident of Cuttuck, he owned here a zemindary worth about thirty thousand rupees a year, and under the terms of the Regulations and orders of Government, for all practical purposes, he occupied the same position as a resident. Nor was the loan contracted from him in an 'open way.' The negotiations with him lasted for some time. He first flatly refused to grant the loan, and it was only after some correspondence and several months' delay that he agreed to stand security, the loan coming directly from the mother-in-law of his grand-daughter. All the legal formalities were gone through in the office of Mr. Gillanders who was the attorney of the late Raja, who gave all the necessary instructions. Nor does the liquidation in any way clear the offence. Commenting on these loans the letter observes 'although the Government of India considered it matter for regret that a member of the Covenanted Civil Service should have incurred debts to natives even in circumstances not prohibited by rule, the Governor-General in Council agreed with his Honor in thinking that no further action was called for.'

The second para. of the Home Secretary's letter comments on two other loans. One of them was from a native gentleman named Umeschunder Mandal, of Hughly, when Mr. Beames was officiating Commissioner of the Dacca Division, and failed to report the transaction when he subsequently became Collector of Hughly, as he should have done under the terms of the Regulations of the Government. The other loan was from Messrs Srinath Roy and Company, who are residents of, and extensive landowners in, Dacca, though trading in Calcutta. In reporting on these cases His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, we are told in the Home Secretary's letter,—

'While stating that Mr. Beames has violated the spirit and letter of the Regulation, expresses the opinion that there is not a shadow of suspicion as to his official honesty, and that no suggestion has ever been made that his official action has been in any way influenced by his pecuniary obligations. Sir Stuart Bayley recognizes the necessity for visiting with punishment the breach of a regulation upon the observance of which it is so essential for Government to insist, but at the same time he brings to notice the fact that Mr. Beames has always borne "the highest character for zeal, straightforwardness, and efficiency, and adds that the difficulties which led to his contracting these loans have not been the result of personal extravagance.'

It is not clear from this para. whether His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor desired to let off Mr. Beames altogether, or to dispose of the case with a gentle reprimand. This is a question of some importance to the Bengali public, and the publication of the Bengal Government reports would have enabled them to a right understanding of the case. The plea about 'zeal, straightforwardness, and efficiency' did not go for much in the case of Mr. Sullivan, and the Bengali public are naturally anxious to know how far it will be tolerated by Sir Stuart Bayley. In courts of law it is urged very largely with a view to secure a mitigation of punishment, but never for the purpose of exoneration from fault. The pleas urged are obviously unsupportable. We do not care to enquire about what is 'official honesty,' but it is quite clear that Mr. Beames did not act with that straightforwardness the credit of which is claimed for him. The *Amritabazar Patrika* first referred to the first two loans, and Mr. Beames denied them apparently without making a clean breast on the occasion, and placing the whole details before Government at once. When the *Patrika* gave details of the second batch of loans and Mr. Beames was again called upon for explanation he gave out just so much as would technically cover the charge. This is adroit business work no doubt, and it may be consistent with 'official honesty' for His Honor tells us, it is; but we cannot admit that it is characteristic of 'straightforwardness,' for which any mitigation of punishment can consistently be claimed. Confession under cross-examination is not straightforwardness. "Zeal" is a small intangible matter, and we will not say anything about it; but about 'efficiency' we think we have been placed before the two horns of a dilemma. If we believe that indebtedness to persons under one's jurisdic-

tion is consistent with efficiency we contradict the Government Regulations which have been framed on the assumption that it is not so, and if we hold that it is inconsistent we go against the dictum of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. We give full credit to Sir Stuart Bayley for the kindness of his heart; but we think his Secretary has not invoked the best logic in support of it. The fact is, the desire to let down a person gently is not consistent with rigorous logic. The heart in such cases often takes the place of the head. The decision arrived at by the Government of India in regard to these two loans is thus given in the letter under notice:—

'In the circumstances as above described, the Governor-General in Council has come to the conclusion that the breach of rule of which Mr. Beames has been guilty is not so aggravated as to call for the imposition of the extreme penalty authorized by the Regulation. Further, it is willingly admitted that Mr. Beames' personal character and his public services, to which the Lieutenant Governor bears emphatic tribute, should be considered in mitigation of the consequences of his transgression. On the other hand, his Excellency in Council is unable to regard in other than a serious light disobedience of the Regulations imposed by the Government on the servants of the State in regard to borrowing. It is essential to the maintenance of discipline and of the high character which should obtain among Covenanted Civilians, that they should be free from any imputation of reproach in such matters, and that the provisions of the Regulation should, both in the letter and the spirit, be strictly observed. The Governor-General in Council, therefore, requests that his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor will convey to Mr. Beames a formal expression of censure from the Government of India for the breach of the Regulation which has been committed by him. His Excellency in Council has further come, with great regret, to the conclusion that the period of Mr. Beames' present officiating appointment in the Board of Revenue must be at once terminated, and that he should be transferred to a suitable appointment within the jurisdiction of which no native creditor of his resides, or has an estate or commercial establishment.

We are told that the Government of Bengal propose to send Mr. Beames to Bhagalpur as officiating Commissioner. This will probably not be possible without clashing with the last clause of the orders above cited. The rumour is that Mr. Beames is, or was, in the books of the brothers Dhanapat and Luchmiput Singh, who own extensive property in the Bhagalpur division. This is, however, of little consequence, as it is most probable that Mr. Beames will prefer to retire from the Service, or for the present take his furlough, rather than occupy the high position of a Divisional Commissioner while labouring under a heavy cloud. He can no longer discharge his duties with that efficiency, smoothness and prestige which are essential in such an office. We have noticed above the opinion of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor that Mr. Beames is an able and zealous officer. He is also greatly attached to literary work; but his strong antipathy to natives, now greatly heightened by the fact of one of the native papers having exposed his faults and thereby brought his present misfortune, has now rendered him completely unfit for the satisfactory discharge of the onerous duties of a prefect. His obvious course therefore lies in following the example of Mr. Sullivan, of Madras. The natives will not regret his departure, except the few who have his name still in their books, and his English friends will gladly welcome him back to his native land, where, he can in quiet retirement follow the agreeable, but not to him very remunerative, occupation of literature.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

HIS HONOR the Lieutenant-Governor will hold a Grand Durbar, at Patna, at the end of August next. All the zemindars and chiefs of the Patna Division and of the neighbouring districts will be invited to attend.

HIS HONOR the Lieutenant-Governor has, we are sorry to hear, sanctioned the proposed adoption, by

the junior Maharani of Burdwan, of Lala Bui Behari Kapur's son. Sir Stuart Bayley had interviews with both the Maharanis at Burdwan; and he announced his decision at a public assembly of of the Raj officials. A garden party was held at the Dilkusha on Thursday last, and 'thanks,' we are told, 'were voted to His Honor by the public for his sanction of the adoption.' What the word 'public' may mean here we are unable to tell our readers.

WE SHOULD have announced in our last issue that Mr. Dutt, the son of Mr. C. C. Dutt, Barrister-at-Law, has, along with Mr. Mallik, successfully passed the Civil Service Examination. Great credit is due to Mr. Dutt for having gone through such a severe test at an age, when the majority of Indian youths do not even pass the F. A. examination of the Calcutta University. Mr. Dutt is only 17 years of age.

WE HAVE been startled to hear that the steam ship *Marhatta*, which had taken the place of *Sir John Lawrence*, in the Chandbally pilgrim service, sank near the Hooghly Point on Saturday last. No accurate information has yet been received about the extent of the disaster. This much is known, however, that the vessel was full of passengers, and that many lives have been lost.

REUTER tells us that the Hon'ble J. B. Peile has been appointed to the India Council, in the place of Sir Ashley Eden. Sir Rivers Thompson was in the running, but he had no chance. This is a relief quite as much as his departure from this country.

A SPECIAL telegram, in a Bombay paper, asserts that a Coalition Ministry, with Lord Hartington as Premier, is imminent. Several other Liberal Unionists are expected to join the Cabinet.

WE are glad to hear that Mr. C. Ramechandra Iyer, a member of the Statutory Civil Service in the Madras Presidency, has been appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Salem. From all accounts that we hear Mr. Iyer is a worthy member of the Service, and will do credit to the selection which has been made by Lord Connemarra. Our friend of the *Hindu* has given some very salutary advice to Mr. Iyer, and has adjured him to act in such a manner, in his new capacity, as to merit the trust which has been placed in him. Mr. Iyer, says our contemporary, 'has double responsibility attached to his position. If he acquits himself with success, he not only achieves his personal advancement, but also strengthens the cause which his countrymen have so much at heart, and for which they struggle so hard.' All honor to Lord Connemarra for the appointment he has made. In noticing the appointment, the *Englishman* says that 'the selection of Salem seems to be rather unfortunate, as there are a large number of European British subjects within the jurisdiction of the Shevaroy Hills.' Our Hare Street contemporary has a habit of shying at every morsel thrown to the natives of the country; but we may assure him that there is no cause for his being frightened. It will be long, very long, before Indians will get the cream of the service now reserved for his countrymen. We may look wistfully at the milk and honey which is kept away from us, and may at long intervals obtain the privilege of touching the cup which contains the precious liquid, but shall not be allowed to taste it for many long years yet. Our contemporary, therefore, need not throw cold water on appointments such as the one now under notice.

WE regret to hear of the death of Babu Annada Charan Kashtagir. He was a medical practitioner of great experience and ability. He came to Calcutta about thirty-five years ago to prosecute his studies at the Medical College, where he greatly distinguished himself. He was a warm advocate of social reform, and the reform-party of East Bengal looked up to him for aid and counsel. His death is mourned by a large circle of friends and admirers.

THE Netrokona scandal is attracting public attention. The conduct of Moulavi Fazlal Karim, the Sub-Divisional officer of Netrokona, with regard to certain unseemly proceedings, in which the blind god led him astray, has been severely condemned by some of our vernacular contemporaries. We hear that a formal charge has been preferred against him, and that Mr. Glazier, the District Magistrate, is holding an enquiry in the matter. We have every reason to hope that the enquiry will be fairly conducted; and if the result of the enquiry shows that the Sub-Divisional Officer has committed the offence charged against him, we are sure a condign punishment will be inflicted on him to meet the ends of justice.

THE Government of India has administered a mild censure to the Bombay Presidency Association, which memorialised the Government in April last, that the educational grants in the Bombay Presidency should not be curtailed. The Government of India says in reply that the educational grant under the new contract is 43 per cent. higher than in the old, and that the proposed retrenchments only affect grants-in-aid to school buildings. It has been shown that the Government pays now 5½ lakhs more than it did before, with regard to actual teaching and inspection in Schools and Colleges. But the real point at issue is, is not the Government of Bombay curtailing its educational grants and starving the department in every possible way, under the stereotyped plea that financial exigencies absolutely require such retrenchments? What is true in Bombay is true also in Bengal, and in other provinces. The tendency everywhere is to curtail educational expenditure as much as possible. Leave the provision for educational wants to the people, and withdraw Government direction as much as possible, this has been the policy which has been acted on for some time in India. The State obligation for educating the people is being minimised day by day in our country, and every opportunity is sought to impress on us the absolute necessity of self-help in matters educational. In all civilized countries of the world, the principle of educating the people at the State expense is being extended in its application, while in India the idea of Government taking a large and extended share in education is scouted by the statesmen of the day. Transfer all educational institutions to local agencies, where it can be decently done,—this has been the guiding policy of our Government. The quality of education given in private institutions is not looked at; the extension of the educational agencies by means of liberal grants is not cared for. Apply the shears mercilessly, and let the people look after their own education—this is what the Government is doing; and the Bombay Presidency Association in memorialising the Government of India in regard to curtailment of educational grants, drew its attention to an evil, which is likely to affect injuriously the permanent welfare of the country.

THE cat is out of the bag at last! The true history of the Gwalior loan has been disclosed by the *Asiatic Quarterly Review*, which, it is apparent, is under the literary management of Sir Lepel Griffin. The *Review* tells us that seven millions sterling were saved by the late Maharaja Scindia, and that 'half of this sum the Agent to the Governor-General was able to persuade the Council of Regency to invest with the Government.' Now Sir Lepel Griffin is Agent to the Governor-General, and he 'persuaded' the Council of Regency to invest in Government funds! Those who know anything of Native Durbars need no enlightenment as to the character of the 'persuasion' referred to. 'Persuasion' in the Dictionaries of the residents and political agents means 'command'; and we may easily understand the true nature of the Gwalior transaction when this meaning is remembered. As to 'voluntary offer,' and that sort of euphemism, the public are already aware of their true significance. The strong repugnance of the Native States to investing in Government Securities is well-known, and it was thought strange that the Council of Regency, though under the magic spell of the Agent to the Governor-General, would so far overcome their traditional instincts, as voluntarily offer a loan

of 3½ crores to the British Government, and thus act contrary to the wishes and practice of the late Maharaja. The transaction, as we said above, looked suspicious from the beginning; the light which has now been thrown upon it discloses the ugly fact that the Agent to the Governor-General, with the aid of Sir Ganpat Rao, who is entirely under his influence, has taken away 3½ crores from the Gwalior treasury for the benefit of the India Government. How far such a transaction is in consistency with treaty stipulations and political code of morality is for English statesmen to consider. There is not a shadow of doubt, however, that the Agent to the Governor-General has been guilty of a gross breach of trust. What confidence can our native princes feel after this in the rectitude of purpose professed by the residents and political agents of the Government of India?

THERE were grand doings at Bali on Monday last. The good people of the station invited His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor to distribute prizes to the successful pupils of Bali Thompson School and the Macanlay Girls' School; and His Honor cordially accepted the invitation. At the end of the ceremony of distributing the prizes, His Honor said that the gentlemen of Bali have shown that in all matters, municipal and educational, they have learned the secret of self-help; they have put their shoulders to the wheel, and have successfully attained, the objects they have in view. Referring to the request the School Committee made to raise the school to the status of a college, His Honor said that the newly established college at Uterpara would meet all the requirements for higher education at Bali and the neighbouring places, and it would not be advisable to entertain any proposal to convert the Bali School to a college. Speaking of the munificence of the founder of the Uterpara college Sir Stuart Bayley paid a just tribute of praise to Babu Joykissen Mukerjee's liberality in undertaking the maintenance of the Uterpara School in its new phase as a college.

THE *Englishman* has been reading us a homily on the peccadilloes of a peccant Deputy Magistrate. This precious Sub-Divisional Officer, in his over-zeal for the discharge of his official duties, outraged female honor, modesty and delicacy, by subjecting a lady to indignities which she did not merit. We are not defending the Deputy Magistrate; he has acted in a most unjustifiable manner, and should be severely taken to task for what he has done. He has shown himself lamentably deficient in the qualities which his position requires, and we should be the last person to shield him from the just indignation which his injudicious act has raised against him. The excuse of good faith is a very lame excuse, and should, in such cases, be treated with contempt. The offence of the Deputy Magistrate should of course be severely dealt with; but—captious people are apt to remark that the tirade of the *Englishman* is an effusion of his irritated sensibilities, excited to abnormal acuteness by the Government censure on the conduct of Messrs. Beames and Luson. We, of course, would not pay the least heed to such ill-natured remarks, nor advert to the case, we notice below, to show that such cases do not imply any racial peculiarity.

THERE is a great sensational case now on the tapis in England, which led to a defeat of the Ministry in the House of Commons the other day. The case is that of one Miss Elizabeth Cass. She is a dressmaker by profession, and was taken up by the Police on a charge of having enticed a gentleman returning from church. Her employer defended her, and she was let off. But a demand was made in the House of Commons for an enquiry into the conduct of the Police for putting the young lady into trouble. The Home Secretary opposed the motion and was defeated. An enquiry has since been promised.

A LONDON correspondent of the *Englishman* narrates the following story:—No doubt you saw the cautions in the *Times* and other newspapers against selling the tickets of admittance in the Abbey, and the further announcement that

some cases of their sale had been detected. Well, according to what I hear, the offender in one case was a minor canon, to whom five tickets had been allotted. These he sold for £80 a piece. The transaction was discovered however; the tickets were cancelled; and the vendor was debarred from taking part in the day's proceedings. Whether he refunded the £400 he had received, I did not hear. What would have been the comment of the *Englishman* had an Indian in India been the offending party?

WE welcome the re-appearance of the *National Magazine*. The first number of the new series is before us. It is well worthy of public support. As the editor modestly puts it, the journal 'will partake more of the character of a reservoir that derives its supply from outside, than of a medium for forcing the ideas of the editor on the attention of the public.' We must not, therefore, expect much from the editorial pen. There are five articles in the number under notice. The first in importance is Mr. Tawney's review of Dr. Schröder's brochure on 'Pythagoras in India.' Mr. Tawney has drawn largely on the stores of his knowledge in showing conclusively that Pythagoras really derived his distinctive doctrines from India. The Greek philosopher was indebted mainly to the Hindu philosophical systems for his opinions about creation and government of the universe. The doctrine of emancipation from the evils incident to human life,—the great *somum bonum* of all Hindu speculations—and the doctrine of the transmigration of souls, were both borrowed from India. The Sankhya philosophy is the basis of the Pythagorean system; and the Pythagorean regard for numbers was an outcome of the teachings of the Sankhya philosophy, which has been appropriately called the philosophy of numbers. We cannot stop here to analyse Mr. Tawney's explanation of the term *Sankhya*, but we may say in passing that the system was probably so called, because it correctly enumerated the creative and the governing principles of the universe. Mr. Tawney's review will well repay perusal. We cannot congratulate Dr. J. N. Bhattacharji on his paper on Rukhma Bai and child-marriage. As a writer on Hindu law of some pretension one would expect from him a clear statement of the present law, a discussion of its historical basis, and the influence it has exercised upon the development of Hindu society. It is a subject of great importance, and the writer would have saved his own reputation if he had not dealt with the subject in such a perfunctory manner. Some of his arguments are extremely vicious; but we cannot take notice of them here. We congratulate the editor on the first number of his *Magazine*, and if the promise given in this number is kept up—and the magazine level with *Concord*—it will supply a want in Indian literature.

WE have received a copy of Mr. Walter R. Donogh's 'Stamp Law of British India.' It is a very useful book. The compiler has not done his work perfunctorily; he has devoted care and thought and labour upon it, and made it as nearly perfect as a work on such a subject can be. We have first of all a carefully revised text of the Act itself, accompanied by valuable notes, compiled from High Court reports, Legislative discussions and Government Notifications and Resolutions. Then there is an alphabetically arranged list of all the exemptions from duty made under the Act. There are four Appendices, each of which contains a mine of information. The reader will find in them all that he can possibly require in a manual of Stamp Law. Appendix B. is an important feature of the work. It contains schedules of all the stamp-duties ever charged in India. These are preceded by a short sketch or digest of the earlier stamp law traced from its origin in 1797. We do not feel the slightest hesitation in recommending the work to public support.

WE are sorry to hear that the Director of Public Instruction has thought it expedient to raise the rate of schooling-fee at the Hare School all round. The fee now will be Rs. 5 per month. There is a large saving every year at the Hare

School; and we should have thought from the prosperous condition of the institution that the rate of fee was lowered and not raised. The present rate will be prohibitive, and is sure to affect largely the number on the rolls. That, however, will not be of the slightest consequence to the educational authorities. It will afford, on the contrary, a good excuse for abolishing one more Government institution—on the mischievous plea of giving encouragement to private enterprise, and developing the spirit of *self-help* in the people.

THE Afghan boundary question has at last been settled. The Protocol has been signed, and an exchange of ratifications will take place in the course of a week. That Russia should yield so readily in the matter of the settlement, and that in a way which gives England and the Amir an advantage over her, is a rather suspicious move on the part of the grisly Bear. There is, perhaps, more in all this than meets the naked eye.

THE Irish Crimes Bill has been passed by the House of Lords.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—Its Unequalled Efficacy in General Debility and Emaciation.—In cases of Debility and Emaciation the powerful curative influence of Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod Liver Oil is graphically described by Sir Henry Marsh, Bart, M. D., Physician in Ordinary to the Queen in Ireland, who, after extensive use strongly recommended this preparation, and observed:—“I have frequently prescribed Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod Liver Oil. I consider it to be a very pure Oil, not likely to create disgust, and a therapeutic agent of great value.” This eminent Physician remarks:—“With strumous and emaciated subjects, and where the general health is impaired, this remedy tells with peculiar efficacy. The reviving and remaining effects of a regular daily course of this animal Oil are highly satisfactory! Its favourable action on the system is renovating: it checks progressive emaciation, restores the yielding health, rebuilds, as it were, the tottering frame, and brings about a most remarkable and salutary change in all the vital functions.” Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and storekeepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 210, High Holborn, London.

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Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—13th July, 1887.

GENERAL.—Babu Chaturbhuj Patnaik, Urya Translator to Government, is allowed leave for two months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Babu Dhaneswar Mahapatra is appointed to act as Urya Translator to Government, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Chaturbhuj Patnaik, or until further orders.

Babu Krishna Chunder Dutt, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Furriddpore, is allowed leave for fifteen days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Babu Lalit Mohun Pal, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Dacca, is allowed leave for one month and ten days, under section 138, rule 2 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Babu Jotendra Nath Gupta, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Kushtia, Nuddea, was on leave under section 138, rule 2 of the Civil Leave Code, from the 13th to the 18th June 1887.

Mr P Nolan, Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the General, Revenue and Statistical Department, is allowed leave for one month and fifteen days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st proximo.

Mr W O Macpherson, Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, is appointed to act as Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the General, Revenue and Statistical Department, during the absence, on leave, of Mr P Nolan, or until further orders.

Mr H W C Carnduff, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Serajgunge, Puna, is appointed to act as Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr W O Macpherson, or until further orders.

Mr A L McGavin, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jalpigi, is transferred to Puna, and is appointed to have charge of the Serajgunge Sub-Division of that District, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr H W C Carnduff, or until further orders.

Babu Khuttee Gopal Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Purneah, is transferred to Nuddea, and is appointed to have charge of the Chuadanga Sub-Division of that District.

Babu Bhabotosh Bannerji, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector on furlough, is posted to the sudder station of the Purneah District.

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Dewan of Cooch Behar.

TO ENGINEERS DISTRICT OFFICERS AND OTHERS.

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1. Taza Bhee Taza.
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3. Hilli Milli Punnya.
4. Denga Chete Ayore.
5. Kya Hoga Bhala Janee.
6. Khambaj.

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2. Jangala Multan.
3. Lalit.
4. Kirtun.

1. Sarung.
2. Bhoirabhee.
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RESERVE FUND—has been credited with an additional sum of **£12,103**

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A. B. ANTRAM.

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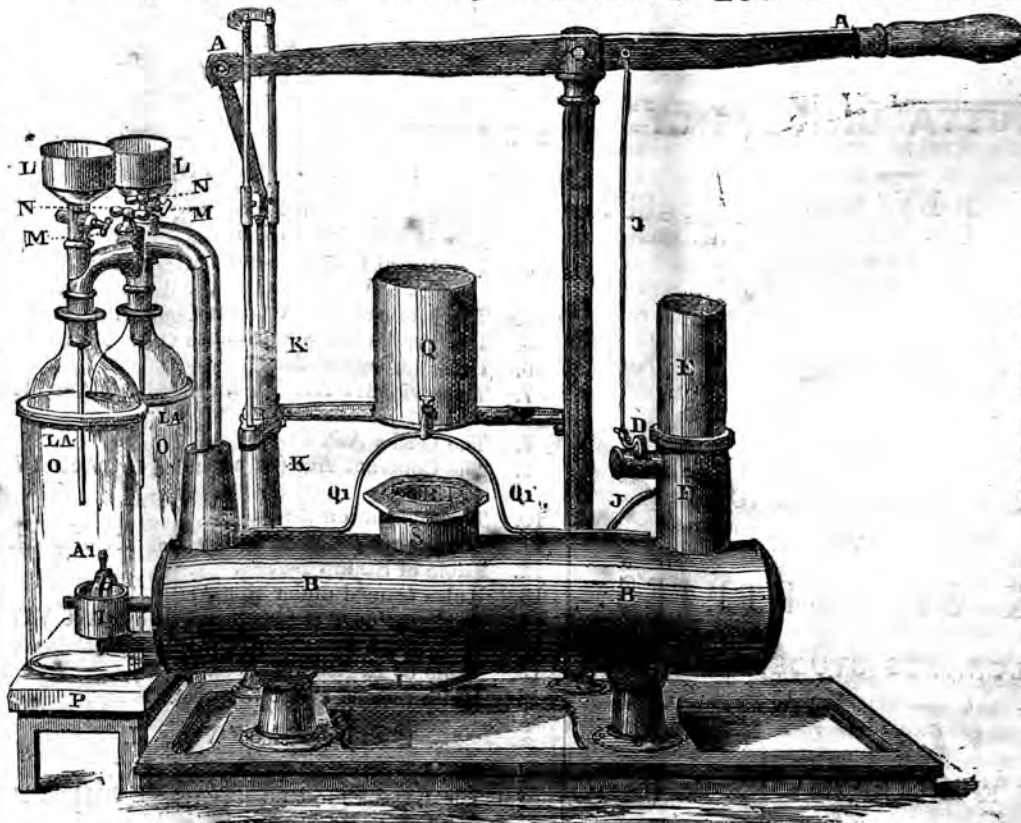
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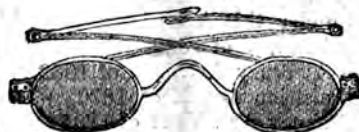
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